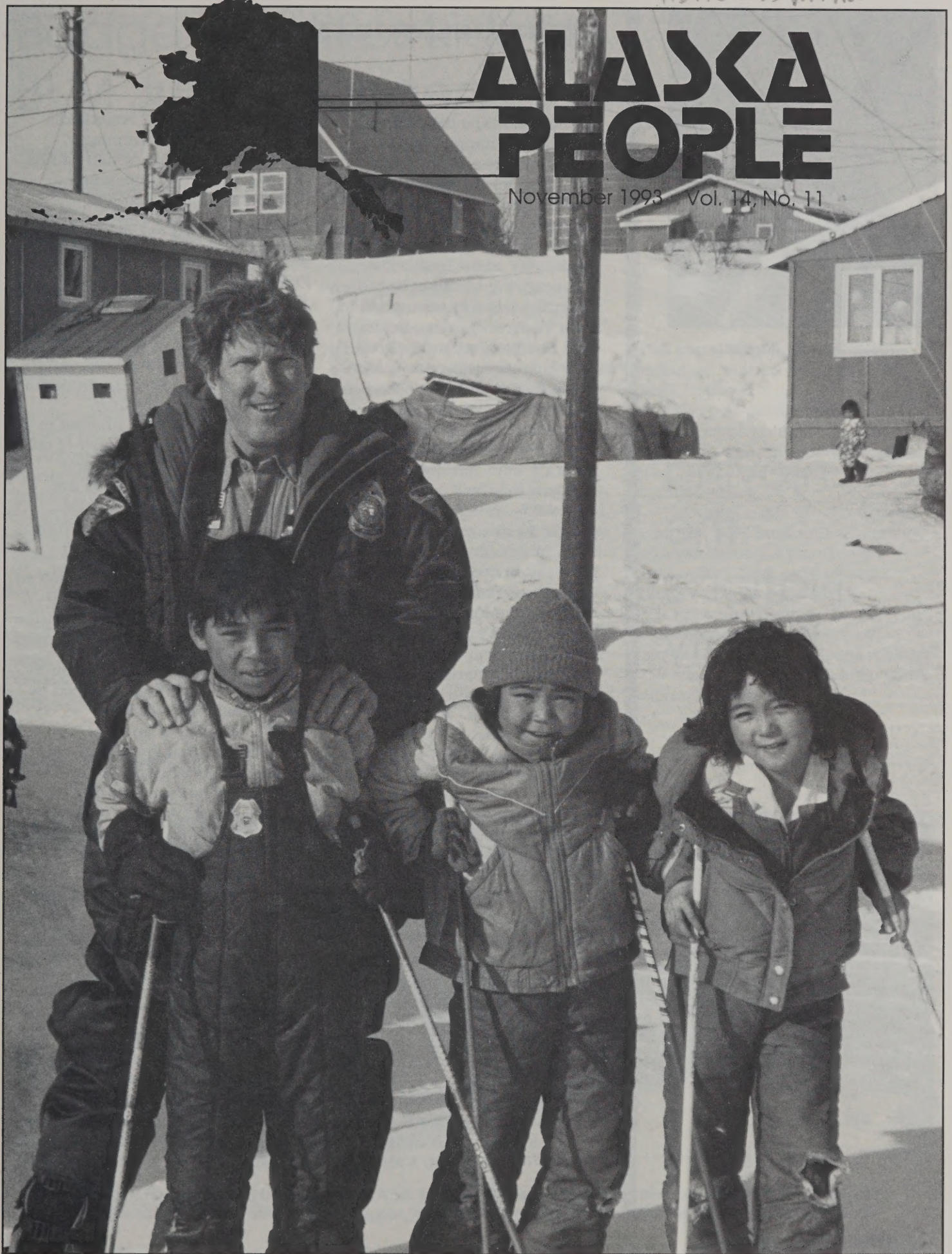
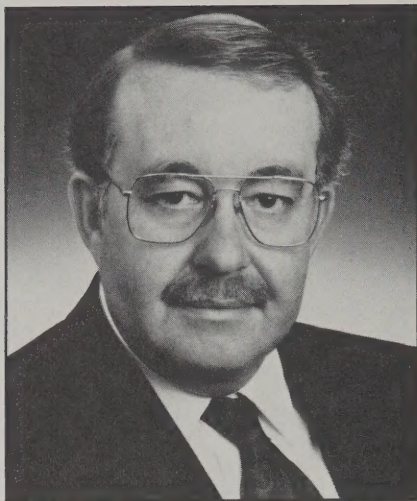


ALASKA PEOPLE

November 1993 Vol. 14, No. 11





BLM Director Jim Baca

Enjoying the Nation's Bounty

A message from Director Jim Baca

The end of the calendar year, with the happy Thanksgiving holiday and the festive season which follows, involves two themes that tie to our public lands.

The first is giving thanks for the bounty of the land. The Thanksgiving tradition began when the pilgrims succeeded in bringing in crops from fields they had planted and cultivated on the continent's open lands—the first “public lands.” As a holiday it gained new and lasting attention during the mid-1800s, when the people of America were settling the Western frontier.

In this century, we expanded our thanks to not just what the land could produce, but to how it enriched our lives through its natural cornucopia—its scenery, its wildlife, and its sheer magnitude of wide open spaces.

Today's Americans give thanks that the lands remain in their ownership. Each time Americans visit the public lands, or read about them, or just know that they are there, they enjoy that part of our heritage as a nation. These are public lands, belonging to the people. Each of us has an undivided interest in the whole of the public lands.

As an agency goal, the Bureau of Land Management seeks constantly to improve the lands in many ways. As an example appropriate to the time of year, consider the continued restoration of wildlife habitat. We can enjoy the knowledge that the American wild turkey has returned to our lands in constantly increasing numbers.

Which brings us to the second theme of year's end,

family togetherness. Americans are discovering the seemingly unlimited family fun which can be enjoyed on their public lands. “Exploration” of the land is reaching into every corner of the public lands. My own favorites are the people who pass softly. Enjoying each other's company and the great exercise it offers, families find and trace trails on mountain bikes. In wilderness study areas, they hike, and camp, and discover together the wonders of America's back country.

There is a growing interest in the old trails which are part of our Western history. In larger and larger numbers, Americans are walking again along the trails which led us West. These include the Santa Fe trail, the Oregon trail, the Mormon trail, and the briefly-used but colorful Pony Express trail. As they explore along those trails, and develop an interest, they learn more of our history and heritage, and come to appreciate the hardships faced by those who went before.

The breadth of outdoor recreation available to families is endless. Enjoy the geology of the land, and remember it with rockhounding. Capture huge vistas and minute fossils on film. Throughout the West, broad streams and rivers passing through wide valleys, or emerging from a steep-walled canyon, offer peaceful escape from daily chores. There a parent shares with a child the soft whisking sound of flycasting. Together the family is welded more closely.

During the Thanksgiving season, the bounty of our land and the limitless opportunities the public lands offer for families spending time together can add to our pride in the nation's land heritage.

Badge identifies kids as BLM Junior Rangers

by Andy Williams

Where BLM Ranger Mike Billbe goes, children follow.

Dressed in his BLM ranger's uniform and badge, the 6-foot 2-inch Billbe travels to villages in Alaska's Kobuk District. Now the children who gather when he comes may also wear badges identifying them as BLM junior rangers.

Billbe came up with the idea for the junior ranger badges when he was working as a BLM ranger in Arizona. He brought the idea north with him in 1991 when he transferred to Fairbanks.

"The badges are a great way for me to contact the kids and talk to them about BLM and the rangers," he said.

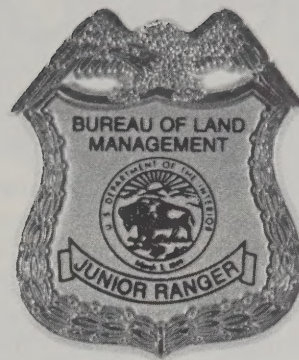
Billbe designed a foil and adhesive-backed badge, which he brought with him on a snow-machine trip from Nome to Koyuk during the 1993 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

The badges were popular with the kids, but the foil and adhesive were not sturdy enough for rugged wear and below-zero temperatures. Billbe decided he needed a more durable badge.

He contacted a company that makes badges and received a plastic blank. Working with Stan Bloom, a cartographer with Public Affairs, he designed a badge that closely resembles the BLM ranger badges. He ordered 4,000 of the gold-colored pin-on badges from the manufacturer.

Billbe has divided the badges up with rangers in the Arctic and Steese/White Mountains districts. He's also sent some to the Glennallen and Anchorage districts and shared them with fellow rangers elsewhere in BLM.

"The Arizona State Office has requested the supplier to produce badges for Arizona. The national office for law enforcement in Boise



has seen them and the program might get started on a national level," he said.

The new plastic badges have also received an enthusiastic reception from the junior rangers. The badges are virtually unbreakable.

"Young people are the future users of BLM land and we need to contact them at an early age," Billbe said. "The junior ranger badges give us a chance to reinforce our message, to say 'you can be one of our helpers by picking up a can if you see it along the road and helping to keep your community clean.'"

Patents signed conveying 254,000 acres to villages

Calista
Adjudication
Branch Chief Ann
Johnson and staff
saw their efforts
pay off on Oct.
16. On that day
State Director Ed
Spang signed the
patents con-
veying more than
254,000 acres of
land to four
Kuskokwim
Corporation
villages.

"Making the
conveyance is
always the most
enjoyable part of
the job to me,"

says Johnson. "It means the end result of a lot of work, by both our adjudicators and the corporation representatives." Johnson credits her dedicated adjudicators, Angele Barbour, Roz Holland, Barbara Opp, Terrie Evarts and Jane Miller.



Mentors are key to RAPS'

by Jon Deininger

As the sun begins its winter disappearing act and the snow joins us for its annual visit, it's comforting to reminisce about the record-breaking weather of this past summer. The summer of 1993 was also a record-breaking year for the Resource Apprenticeship Program for Students.

Since 1987 RAPS has matched Alaska Native youth with natural resource specialists for summer apprenticeships. In 1993 RAPS coordinators recruited and placed 57 participants with mentors, and increased the number of participating agencies and funding sources.

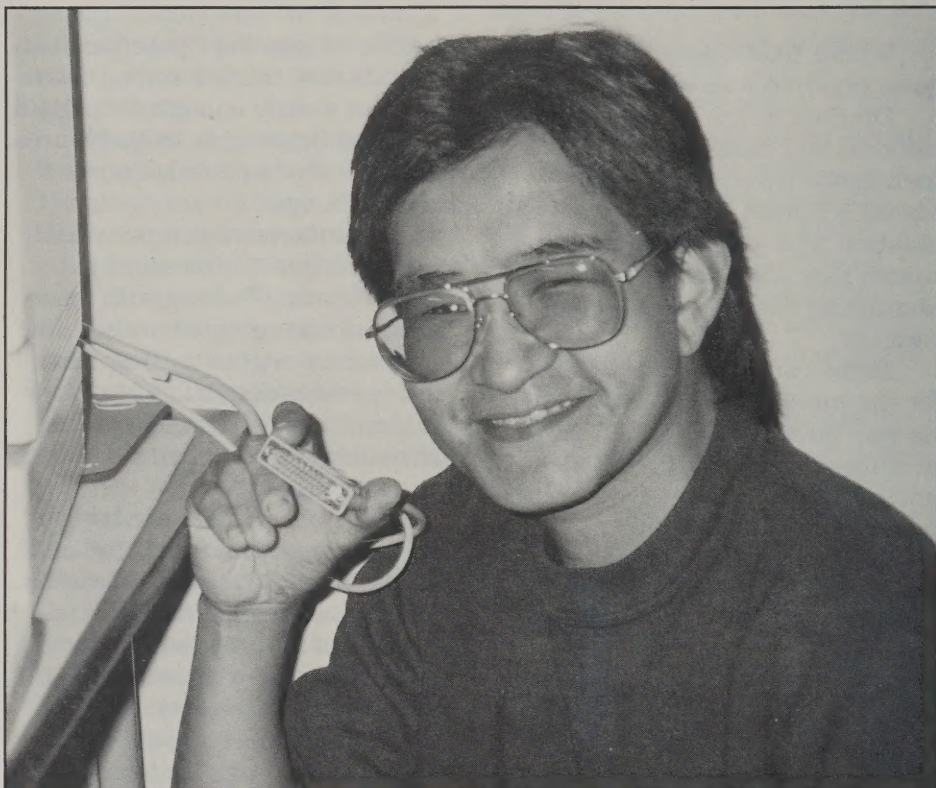
RAPS requires a tremendous amount of coordination and effort. But its success wouldn't be possible without the volunteer mentors who give of their time, expertise and concern.

Volunteer mentors play many different roles. They are supervisors who manage the student's work plan. They are teachers who explain and demonstrate different aspects of natural resources management, expectations of supervisors, and the connection between education and the "real" world work environment. And they are positive adult role models who, by sharing their time, show that others do care about the participants and are rooting for them to succeed.

There is no ideal mentor or mentoring style. Anyone can be a mentor as long as they have the desire to help Alaska's youth grow and succeed.

K.J. Mushovic has been a RAPS mentor at the Glennallen District for several years. This summer she recruited Shane Seager, now a junior at Glennallen High School. Seager helped with an archaeological inventory, collected materials for an educational display, and helped open campgrounds and fix water pumps. Mushovic worked with Shane on his Educational Handbook, and met with him regularly to monitor his apprenticeship and offer guidance.

"We've had RAPS students who were well-liked before, but never one who has made this favorable an impression," says Mushovic. "Once anyone worked with Shane on a project, they wanted him back."



Second-year RAPS student Andy Kosbruk holds a SCSI connector, used to connect Macintosh hardware components. Kosbruk plans to pursue a degree in computer science.

Jon Deininger

RAPS students were also busy helping surveying crews in Kotlik and Emmonak this summer, thanks to the efforts of Cadastral Survey's Dan Johnson and Mike Wilson. Johnson helped pick the appropriate applicants, while Wilson coordinated the students' activities and visited them during their stay in Southwest Alaska. Sperry Moonin, a third-year RAPS student from Nanwalek, apprenticed under Marshal Wade, while Josh Sheppard of Fairbanks worked under Paul Moss. This is the sixth year that RAPS students have worked with BLM land survey crews.

The Kobuk District's Herb Brownell is another dedicated RAPS mentor. This past summer he worked with Harley Huntington of Koyukuk and Walter Gregg of Deering. Brownell and his students worked on several resource management field projects. A large, color-coded Kobuk District land ownership map is proudly displayed in the district's conference room, a testament to the team's cooperative efforts. The two students also researched and wrote the *Kobuk District Reader*, an in-depth explanation of the cultural and natural heritage of the Kobuk area, for district employees.

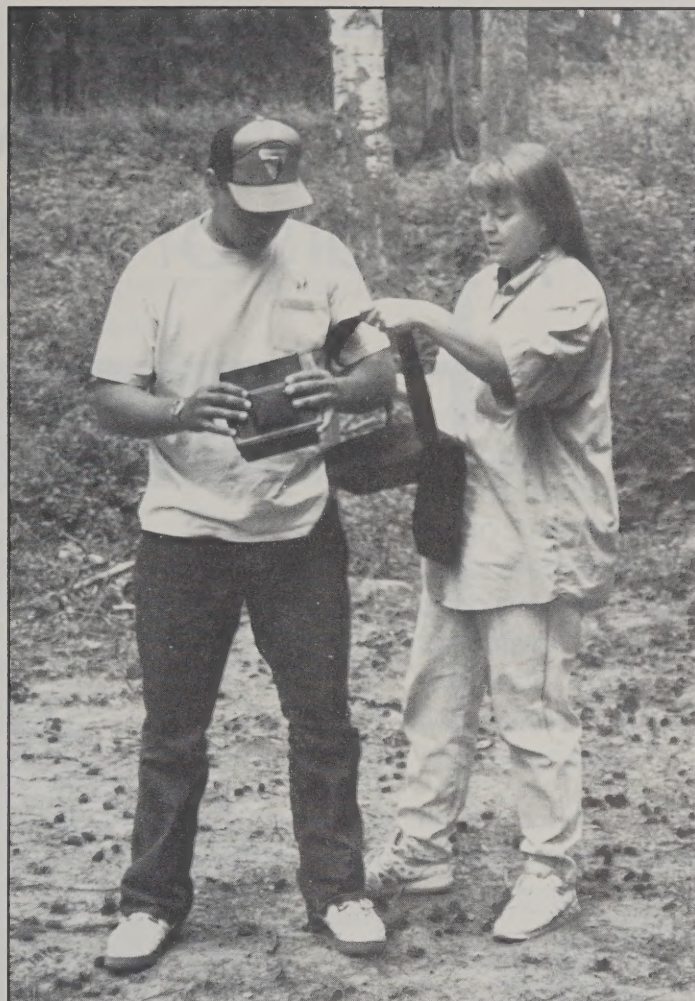
success

"Harley and Walter have taught us a lot about the Alaska Native perspective on a variety of issues, not just resource management," says Brownell. "I'm looking forward to participating in RAPS again next year. I think the program has provided the District, as well as the students, with a lot of benefits."

At the State Office IRM Division, the combined efforts of the entire staff made Andy Kosbruk's apprenticeship successful. Kosbruk, a second-year participant from Perryville, worked alongside Don Pino and Ed Doyle. With their help, he installed virus protection programs, updated DOS software on PC's, and installed interface cards. When possible the IRM staff gave Kosbruk their attention, helping him learn new programs, office operations, and just to chat. Kosbruk says he enjoyed working with the IRM staff. "When something goes wrong with PC's, they're the ones to call. They really keep on top of their work."

The RAPS program could not succeed without the dedication and commitment of RAPS mentors like these and many others in various state and federal agencies. Over 150 Alaskan youth have benefited from their experience working alongside RAPS mentors. Mentoring isn't always easy, but the rewards far outweigh the risks.

If you would like more information about becoming a RAPS mentor, contact RAPS coordinator Bob Jones at 271-3404.



Jon Deininger

K.J. Mushovic of the Glennallen District shows Shane Seager a global positioning system (GPS) receiver. The GPS unit helps field personnel accurately establish their location when doing field compliance work.

UAF awards tuition waivers to RAPS students

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

Four RAPS students were awarded tuition waivers from the University of Alaska Fairbanks on Oct. 6. At a ceremony on the Fairbanks campus, UAF officials presented waivers to Patrick Snow, McGrath; Kevin Seville, Nanwalek; Julie Luke, Delta Junction; and Harley Huntington, Koyukuk.

Huntington worked for BLM for three summers. A graduate of Mount Edgecumbe High School, he's presently working as a teacher aide and bookkeeper in Koyukuk. He will enter UAF in January.

Seville was a RAPS apprentice

with BLM in 1991, and with the National Park Service in 1992 and 1993. He helped with wildlife surveys and interpretation of natural resources, working on archaeological sites and exploring routes for back-country hiking. He will enter UAF in January.

A sophomore at UAF, Snow worked at the Innoko National Wildlife Refuge for two summers. This is the second time Snow, a wildlife biology major, has received a RAPS tuition waiver.

Luke worked for the State of Alaska at Delta Junction. She's a first-year student at UAF,

pursuing a degree in education.

The RAPS program gives rural high school students summer employment in natural resource management. They work side-by-side with professional resource specialists, learning skills that will benefit their future careers.

RAPS, started by BLM in 1987, has since expanded to include eight other federal, state and private agencies. In 1991 RAPS became a national program, giving youth across the country the opportunity to work in the field of natural resources.

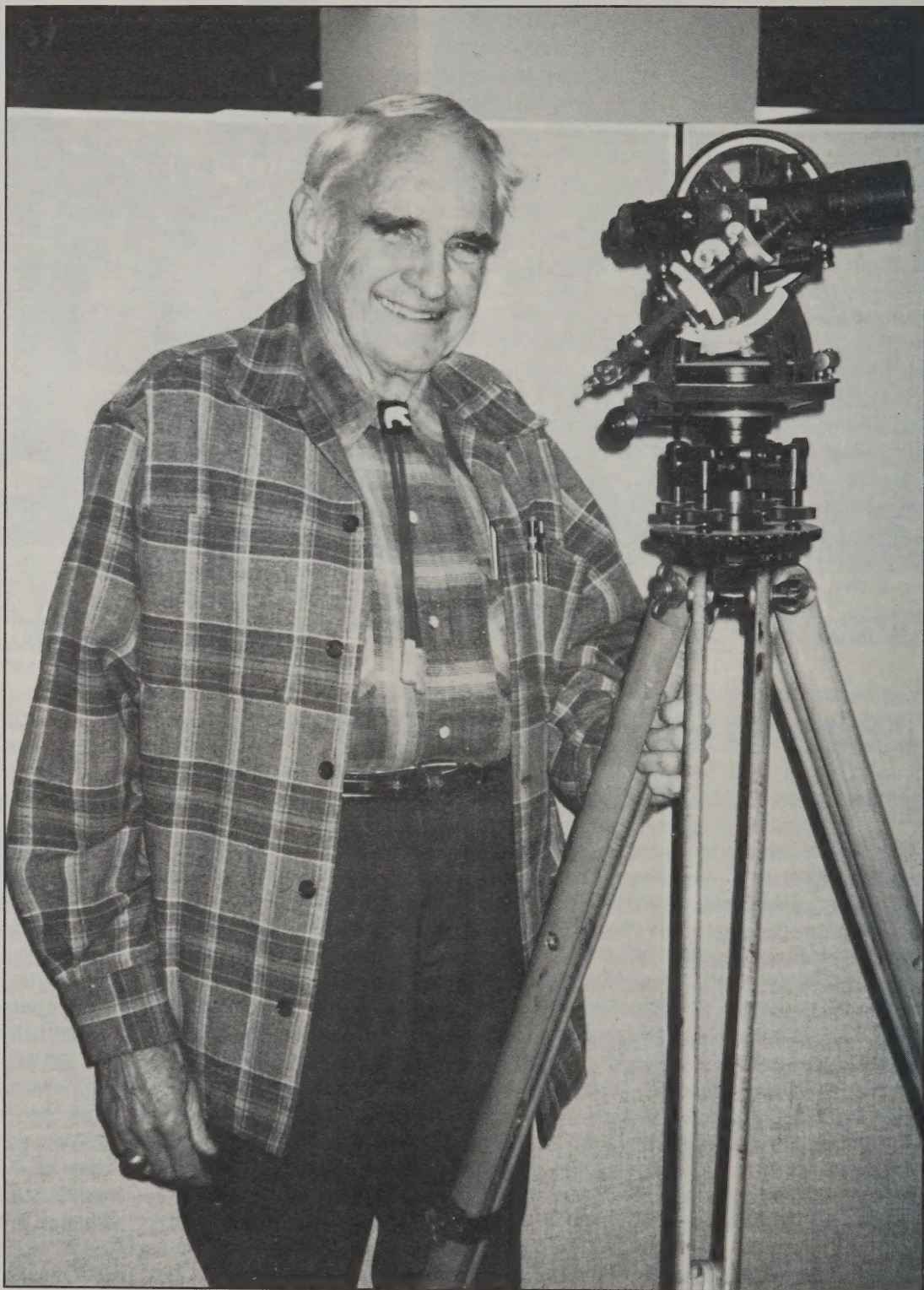
Pioneer land surveyor reflects on forty years of surveying Alaska

"Don would hand me the controls and tell me to keep it on course while he took a nap. Not being a pilot, I'd start to worry when we approached our destination..."

—Hobart Hyatt

by Teresa McPherson

Retired land surveyor Hobart Hyatt gets reacquainted with a solar transit survey tripod, circa 1950.



Teresa McPherson

When BLMers retire, critical job functions pass from retiring employees into new and sometimes less experienced hands. To ease this transition, provide continuity between current and departing employees, and help us keep in touch with the senior members of our BLM family, Alaska People occasionally brings you stories of our retirees.

Recently we dug a little deeper into our files of BLM Alaska retirees and came up with a name perhaps not too well known to many current employees. But mention the name Hobart Hyatt in the presence of land surveyors in Alaska, and you'll find he's far from obscure.

Hobart B. Hyatt, a long-time Alaska land surveyor, retired from the BLM in 1975. Originally from the Great Smoky Mountains of western North Carolina, Hyatt came to BLM in 1948 as a cadastral surveyor in Montana. Two years later he came to Alaska, and spent the next twenty-five years surveying Alaska homesteads, townsites, recreation sites and Native claims. After retiring, Hyatt kept his skills honed by surveying state claims, and teaching surveying classes at what was then Anchorage Community College.

From his plaid wool shirt to his hand-made ivory bolo, Hyatt looks every inch the true Alaskan pioneer. His brown eyes crinkle softly at the corners under bushy salt and pepper brows. He has a warm, ready smile and a quick wit. Spend a few minutes with Hyatt, and you'll walk away with many colorful images of what surveying Alaska's untouched wilderness was like four decades ago.

Then, as now, airplanes and helicopters were often the only means of getting to remote sites. But years ago safety regulations among contract pilots were much more relaxed. Hyatt explains: "Mishaps and near misses were common, especially flying with bush pilots who had full flying schedules during the summer. On flights to Talkeetna, Don Sheldon [long-time Alaskan bush pilot] would hand me the controls and tell me to keep it on course while he took a nap. Not being a pilot, I'd start to worry when we approached our destination. He'd wake up just in time to take the controls and get us down. But sometimes we'd take the tops off a few trees in the process."

Hyatt says bears were a serious problem for surveyors working in remote areas years ago, much as they are today. Occasionally a curious black or grizzly bear would wander into camp and "sure cause a dent in our food supply," says

Hyatt. "Black bears sometimes became a meal. We tried to cook a grizzly once—never again, no one would try a second bite!"

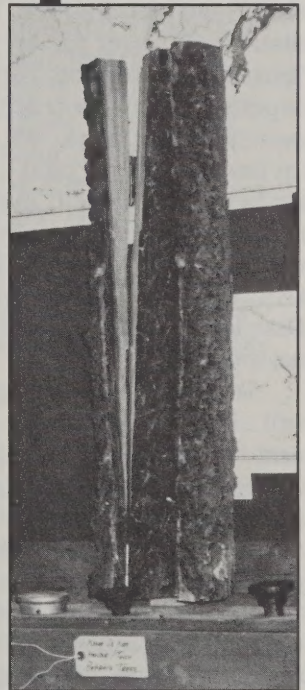
Surveying in Alaska gave him the opportunity to take assignments in warmer climates during the winter months. His winter work took him to sunny California, Arizona, even to the islands of Micronesia.

Hyatt says he never married, since "those interested weren't interested in my wanderlust. For me, surveying was my life. Living in camps, motels, cabins, any place comfortable for the evening. Traveling in almost every mode of transportation available in Alaska, from early types of swamp buggies, to snow-machines, dog teams, boats, autos, trucks, planes, but mostly on foot."

Hyatt says the saddest thing he ever had to do was give up his registration and surveying licenses in three states and the Trust Territories in 1989. He was diagnosed with bone cancer at that time, but like a true Alaskan pioneer, refused to succumb to the disease, and has made remarkable progress.

Like many BLM retirees, Hyatt is a member or volunteer for several non-profit groups, including Pioneers of Alaska, the American Association of Retired Persons, the Anchorage Senior Center, various Scout programs, and, of course, the Alaska Society of Professional Land Surveyors. He says one day he hopes to write a book to record the colorful events he encountered in his travels as an Alaskan land surveyor.

"In the meantime, I still volunteer where I can, and spend my summers at my cabins on Horseshoe Lake near Wasilla," says Hyatt. "And each month I visit my favorite town, Seward, to spend a couple days at my hideaway from the 'big city' of Anchorage."



Pam Eldridge

Bearing trees, such as this one scribed in 1921, point today's land surveyors to the monuments laid by many of Alaska's earliest surveyors.

Delta River provides unusual setting for workshop

by Sharon Durgan Wilson

With the Alaska Range as a backdrop and the crystal clear water as their stage, BLM Alaska hydrologists held their workshop in a perfect setting—the Delta National Wild and Scenic River in Interior Alaska.

"Not only was that the perfect place to learn from each other," said Dave Liebersbach, assistant district manager for Arctic District, "but it was probably the least expensive workshop anyone has ever held in Alaska. We didn't hire an instructor, we paid camp rates for being in the field instead of regular per diem required in urban settings, and we accomplished required work for the Glennallen District. I highly recommend this method."

To make sure enough water will always be available for fishing and recreational boating, BLM is applying for water rights for all nationally designated wild and scenic rivers. The first step is gathering streamflow information. Since Glennallen District doesn't have a hydrologist to conduct the measurements, other hydrologists volunteered to take on the task.

Then Bunny Sterin of the ASO resources staff thought of using the project as a teaching program and a specialized water resources workshop. Joining Sterin for the three-day workshop were Jon Kostohrys from the Steese/White Mountains District and Marlene Braun from the Arctic District.



Janelle Ecklund

Workshop participants beached on Phelan Creek, adjacent to the Richardson Highway, after three days on the Delta. (L-R) Jon Kostohrys, Dave Liebersbach, Tanya Runkel, Bunny Sterin and Marlene Braun.

They were accompanied by Liebersbach; Janelle Ecklund, Glennallen District outdoor recreation specialist; and Tanya Runkel, a summer hydrology volunteer from Germany.

The interdisciplinary aspect worked well. "The other resource people got a feel for what we do," Sterin said, "and we also accomplished needed recreation work along the way."

The best part of the trip, according to all participants, was the total concentration on their objectives. There were no telephones, no interruptions, no personal matters to attend to. "We were totally dedicated to the job," Sterin said. "Besides, how can a hydrologist do his or her job without being on the river?"

"We accomplished an incredible amount of work," Sterin said. "We had field instruction and collected data on the water in the stream. We also collected the number of river users who had passed a traffic counter on the river bank, installed a sign and registration box, cleaned up some campsites, and provided a BLM presence on the river," Sterin said.

The crew camped two nights.

"We had great campfire discussions while we were still focused on the river issues," Sterin said. "The third night we stayed in a cabin and finished our paperwork while we had a table to write on."

Braun, the newest member of the hydrology team in Alaska, appreciated the chance to work with her more experienced peers, Sterin and Kostohrys. "Jon explained how to select sites for taking flow measurements and showed the rest of us how to obtain the most accurate information," she said. "We also left automated recording equipment at a road-accessible section of the Tangle River so we can retrieve hydrologic information later."

Braun added that she thought another worthwhile accomplishment had been a thorough discussion of the hydrology program and related issues facing BLM in Alaska, and the future focus of the program.

"It was a positive exercise," Sterin said. "Like killing two birds with one stone, only with a water twist. We were able to collect data for the Delta River streamflow report, learn about discharge measurements, and form a cohesive statewide hydrology team."

Environmental education center project sees progress

by Danielle Allen

The dream of building an environmental education center is becoming a reality. In cooperation with the Anchorage Committee for Resource Education, the Anchorage School District and other community groups, BLM is on its way to having an environmental education center on the 730-acre Campbell Tract in Anchorage.

"Things are coming together," says project manager Kathy Liska. Achievements so far include the completion of the first stage of the design. In addition, a curriculum writer was hired, grants were awarded, and volunteers recruited.

Livingston Slone, an Anchorage architectural-engineering company, is scheduled to complete the Campbell Creek Environmental Education Center design by January 1994.

The design includes a 10,500-square-foot building with kitchen and dining areas, meeting rooms, office space; two 4,000-square-foot dormitories; landscaping with kiosks and trail signing; a footbridge over Campbell Creek; and a parking area.

A construction bid will be awarded during the summer of 1994. BLM anticipates opening the center in 1995.

The project is in its third year and Liska says, "The complexity and coordination of it all has been challenging." She's given presentations to the Municipality of Anchorage, met with civic groups and school educators, and coordinated with other offices, agencies, organizations and the architect about the innumerable technical, design and financial issues.

"The diverse visions of outdoor educators, managers, recreationists, biologists, architects and others are merging into an innovative environmental education center," says Liska.

When Van Waggoner isn't working as a wildlife biologist for the Anchorage District, he assists Liska by working on the center's curriculum with school district educators. He's also written two successful grants and helped with four others.

Jeff Brune rounds out the staff as environmental education specialist. He's been busy with the district's ever-expanding volunteer program. He helps manage the outdoor recreation program at the tract, and he's working on an informational flyer about the education center.

So far the project has received \$8,000 from the U.S. Forest Service and \$22,000 from the U.S. Minerals Management Service. Rick Foster, an environmental educator who has developed curricula for the Anchorage School District, was hired to develop a curriculum for the center. A \$4,900 request is pending with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for curriculum printing and distribution.

At the end of October, the ARCO Foundation awarded the project an \$8,000 grant to purchase scientific equipment and \$1,000 for an awards program for students who will be attending the center. Grants for the center are administered by the Alaska Natural History Association, a non-profit organization.



At the site where the Campbell Creek Environmental Education Center is to be built, Judith Brendell (second from right) of the ARCO Foundation presents BLM staff with a \$9,000 grant for the project. L-R: Frankie Barker, Alaska Natural History Association; Dick Vernimen, Anchorage District Manager; and Kathy Liska, project manager.

Randy Meyers heads BLM's Kotzebue office



Randy Meyers, BLM's new field representative in Kotzebue.

by Andy Williams

Randy Meyers has joined BLM as the Kobuk District's field representative in Kotzebue.

Meyers comes to BLM after 12 years with the Federal Aviation Administration. She worked the last five years as air traffic control specialist at the Kotzebue Flight Service Station.

A 19-year resident of Alaska, Meyers holds a bachelor's degree in environmental education from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in botany from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She has worked seasonally as a naturalist and wildlife technician with the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Maria Mitchell Natural History Museum in Nantucket, Mass.

Helen Hankins, manager of the Kobuk District, said Meyers is the Kotzebue liaison for the District. Projects she will be working with include special recreation permits, mining operations, baseline habitat surveys, range

management for reindeer, Native allotments and special outdoor education programs.

"Randy is the first point of contact in providing BLM services to residents of Kotzebue and Northwest Alaska. We're fortunate to have a person with her experience and knowledge of Alaska in the position," Hankins said.

Meyers said she enjoys Kotzebue and is excited about working with residents in a new capacity. "I'm looking forward to applying my education and experience as a natural resource specialist," she said.

The Kobuk District includes 30 million acres of BLM-managed land. It's bounded on the east by the pipeline corridor, on the west by the Bering Sea and the Chukchi Sea, on the north by the North Slope and on the south by the Alaska Range.

Workwise or Otherwise

Jack Mellor, associate district manager for the Steese/White Mountains District, traveled to Hamburg, Germany, in October to give a presentation on satellite-borne Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) imaging. Mellor appeared before a European Space Agency symposium to discuss using sequential SAR interpretation techniques to determine water depths in the northern hemisphere. The information could be used to mark access points and transportation routes, and better define fisheries habitat, waterfowl habitat and fresh water availability. It could also help reduce conflicting uses of aquatic resources.

Mellor exhibited a poster presentation of his topic, and a post-conference professional paper will be published by the European Space Agency.

The Steese/White Mountains District met the dog mushing public at a BLM booth set up for the annual **Dog Mushing Symposium** in Fairbanks Oct. 20 and 21. Sue Steinacher designed the booth in the style of a rustic log cabin, with snowshoes on the wall, a quilt on the table and an antique rug on the floor.

Steinacher and Lon Kelly, Steese/White Mountains outdoor recreation planner, answered questions about the winter trails and public recreation cabins in the White Mountains National Recreation Area. Steinacher, as the invited guest speaker for Saturday evening banquet, gave a slide presentation that described mushing opportunities and highlighted the scenic beauty of the popular White Mountains area.

Your employee newsletter is now printed on recycled paper!





Notes from EEO...

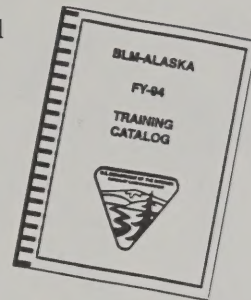
The United Nations designated 1993 as the "International Year for Indigenous Populations." This designation was accomplished through the efforts of 1992 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, Rigoberta Menchu. The award to the Guatemalan Indian rights activist was announced during the week which marked the 500th anniversary of Columbus' arrival in the New World.

This year the month of November is designated National Native American Heritage Month. This is a chance to reflect on the history and future of Alaska Natives and American Indians. Program manager Mike Johnson has designed an informational display in the lobby of the Anchorage Office Building throughout November.

In addition, the immensely successful annual Native American Arts and Crafts Week will be held Nov. 29 - Dec. 3, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. daily. Don't miss this opportunity to see Native artists at work, and to purchase original, hand-made items available during the fair.

Kudos to...

Remember the old training catalogs we used to plow through that made us stop and wonder whether we really even needed training? Employee development assistant Susan Erickson heard our moans and groans, and went to work improving the training catalog. The result: a new catalog that divides courses into categories, features complete course descriptions, and assigns course numbers that are easy to follow.



Erickson explains: "Patty Tengberg and I sat down and brainstormed about how we could make the training catalog easier for employees to use. Together we came up with some ideas, and I went to work on it."

Erickson says her office has received very positive feedback from employees using the new catalog. "Many employees have said that courses are easier to find, they like the book's organization, and the new smaller format. They say it's more user friendly, and that was our goal."

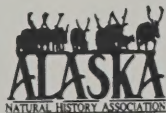
The redesigned catalog is such a hit that two divisions have sent notes of commendation to Erickson's division. A recent memo from Conveyances DSD Wayne Boden and staff reads: "Susan has redesigned the thick, bulky and hard-to-handle training catalog into a more streamlined, easy-to-use manual." An earlier memo from IRM DSD Ray Thomas also praised Erickson's efforts: "The catalog is an OUTSTANDING effort...we're getting timely course notifications, and the revised course evaluation procedures are excellent. Susan and the training program deserve some recognition!"

Consider it done, Ray.

We'd like to make "Kudos" a regular feature of Alaska People. Do you know of someone caught in the act of doing their job especially well? If so, drop us a line (AK-912) or give us a call at 271-3322.

Applause

The BLM branch of the **Alaska Natural History**



Association is having a special Christmas sale, featuring specially selected books, posters, videos and other natural history educational products. The sale will be held in front of the ASO Public Room the week of November 29. Watch for signs announcing the exact date and times. Proceeds benefit BLM natural resource education programs.

Special Act Award

Ann Pederson, Land Law Examiner, Division of Conveyance Management

Garth Olson, Supervisory Computer Specialist, Division of Information Resource Management

Sandra Thomas, Records Administrator, Division of Administration

Moving On

Robyn Milligan, Secretary, Arctic District Office

Dorothy McGuinness, Ranger, Glennallen District

Ann Adams, Land Law Examiner, Division of Conveyance Management

"Whew! We made it!"



Ann Johnson (top right) and her crew in Calista & Southwest Adjudication celebrate their liberation from the Denali Room.

On Nov. 1 Calista/Southwest Adjudication Branch Chief Ann Johnson and her staff came to work in matching t-shirts that read, "Denali Room Survivors." The two branches had spent a very cramped month in the Denali conference room while their old office areas were being renovated. A few lucky souls found temporary details to other offices during the renovations. Their t-shirts read, "Denali Room Escapees."

"We thought it would be fun to declare ourselves 'survivors' of working in the Denali Room for over 30 days," says Johnson. "It's a good sign when people can work together under stressful circumstances, and still manage to have a little fun!"

ALASKA PEOPLE is published monthly for the employees of the Bureau of Land Management. It's produced by the External Affairs Staff, Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Ave., #13, Anchorage, AK 99513-7599. Phone (907) 271-5555.

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On the Cover:

Kobuk District Ranger Mike Billbe stands with three junior rangers in the village of Koyuk during the 1993 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. Billbe has designed a sturdier plastic badge to replace the foil, adhesive-backed junior ranger badge worn by the boy. Story on page 3.

Photo by Dave Mobraaten.



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